Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Original)   A statistical record purge procedure comprising the improvement of ensuring there is adequate temporary memory for storing new statistical records before the procedure initiates deletion of older statistical records in permanent memory, the new statistical records comprising statistical records generated while the older statistical records are being deleted.

2.   (Currently Amended)   The procedure of claim 1 wherein the adequate temporary memory comprises at least ninety percent or more free memory space.

3.   (Original)   The procedure of claim 1 comprising the further improvement of waiting a predetermined period of time if there is inadequate temporary memory, and then repeating the procedure of claim 1.

4.   (Currently Amended)   The procedure of claim 3 wherein the predetermined period of time comprises about is thirty seconds.

5.   (Original)   The procedure of claim 1 wherein the temporary memory space comprises a log space.

6.   (Currently Amended)   The procedure of claim 1 wherein the permanent memory utilizes indices ~~or pointers~~ and the indices ~~or pointers~~ are reset following the deletion of older statistical records.

7.   (Currently Amended)   The procedure of claim 1 wherein the deletion of older statistical records occurs <u>less than once an hour and at least once a day</u> ~~less frequently than hourly but at least once daily~~.

8.   (Withdrawn)   A statistical record purge procedure comprising the improvement of scheduling deletion of older statistical records during a period when relatively few new statistical records are generated.

9.   (Withdrawn)   The procedure of claim 8 wherein the permanent memory utilizes indices or pointers and the indices or pointers are reset following the deletion of older statistical records.

10.   (Withdrawn)   The procedure of claim 8 wherein the deletion of older statistical records occurs less frequently than hourly but at least once daily.

11.   (Original)   An improved method of purging statistical records from a temporary

memory in a service provider network, the improvement comprising:

(A)   ensuring there is adequate temporary memory for storing new statistical records

before the procedure initiates deletion of older statistical records in permanent memory, the new

statistical records comprising statistical records generated while the older statistical records are

being deleted.

12.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 11 further comprising:

(B)   waiting a predetermined period of time ~~if there is inadequate~~ while the temporary

memory is inadequate for storing new statistical records; and

(C)   repeating step (A).

13.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 12, wherein the predetermined period

~~comprises about~~ of time is thirty seconds.

14.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 11 further comprising:

(D)   updating any indices ~~or pointers~~ utilized by the permanent memory following the

deletion of older statistical records in the permanent memory.

15.   (New)   The method of claim 11 further comprising:

(D)   updating any pointers utilized by the permanent memory following the deletion of

older statistical records in the permanent memory.

16.   (New)   The procedure of claim 1 wherein the permanent memory utilizes pointers

and the pointers are reset following the deletion of older statistical records.

17.   (New)   The procedure of claim 1 wherein the ensuring of adequate temporary

memory is based on a number of statistical records likely to be generated during the running time

of the purge script.

18.   (New)   The procedure of claim 1 wherein the ensuring of adequate temporary

memory is based on a frequency at which a purge procedure is executed.

19.   (New)   The procedure of claim 1 wherein the ensuring of adequate temporary

memory is based on a size of the log space.

20.   (New)   The procedure of claim 1 wherein the ensuring of adequate temporary

memory is based on a size of the statistical records generated by a statistics server.